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Date: May 1, 2003
To: Wisconsin Foster Care Agencies
From: Kitty Kocol
Administrator
Subject: Foster Family Month

Across Wisconsin, we celebrate Foster Family Month in May and honor the foster families who dedicate their time and homes to caring for children and helping families involved in the foster care system. As the new Administrator of the Division of Children and Family Services, I am excited to work with foster care agencies and foster parents who make a difference in the day-to-day lives of children.

Various activities are occurring across the state to celebrate and honor our foster families. We have listed resources that counties and private agencies may use to celebrate foster care on our web site at www.dhfs.state.wi.us/children/foster. On this web site, you will find a copy of the proclamation from Governor Doyle declaring May as Foster Family Month, a press release sent to the media, brochures about foster care and links to related web sites for additional information. In addition, the web site contains a letter I have written to foster parents across the state expressing my gratitude and thanks for the incredible work they do.

The Division of Children and Family Services has made the difficult decision to suspend this year's statewide Foster Parent Reception and Dinner due to significant budget constraints. However, next year we will explore hosting this dinner to celebrate the work of foster parents. Thank you, as well, for your tireless dedication. You make an incredible difference for children and families in Wisconsin.